SPEED OF SHOOTING STARS. Swarms of Them Flashing Through Space

at a Prodigious Bate. The shooting stars are small bodies, weighing, at most, a few pounds, and consisting mainly of iron and carbon. They traverse space in swarms and also revolve around the sun in long, elliptical courses like the comets. When these little bodies enter the earth's orbit they are deflected toward the earth and Public Opinion says great numbers are seen in a single night. Their brightness is due to the heat engendered by the energy of their motion. Their speed is enormous, viz.: Forty-two and a half kilometers a second, while the speed of the earth on its orbit is only twentyfive kilometers a second, forward. Consequently when a shower of them approaches the earth in the direction opposite to its course, the initial speed is seventy-two kilometers a second; when they follow on its course they gain sixteen and a half kilometers a second on it, their mean rate of approach being thirty to forty kilometers a second. The friction engenders a temperature of three thousand degrees Celsius, subject to which they burst into flame. If under these conditions their substance is not vaporized, they pass through and beyond the upper strata of our atmosphere and pursue their proper course around the sun; but as a rule they are vaporized, in which case the vapor mingles with the atmosphere, to fall later as meteoric dust. In this manner we come in contact annually with one hundred and forty-six milliards of shooting stars, which add considerably to the earth's substance.

#### FOOD OF AN ANCIENT PEOPLE. They Fed on Spoils of the Chase and Had Several Domesticated Animals.

Plentifully scattered through the relic beds of Switzerland's lakes are fragmentary remnants of its ancient people's food. We learn that they were not cannibals, for, amid a profusion of animal bones, very few of the human species have been detected. The deposits of the earliest settlements prove that the inhabitants were ardent hunters, and then largely fed on the spoils of the chase. But in after ages, when farming occupations were followed to a greater extent, the flesh of tamed animals was chiefly eaten. The bones have mostly been split open, doubtless for the purpose of extracting the marrow. Among the animals domesticated by the lake dwellers were the ox, the sheep and the goat. Their stalls, like their masters' dwellings, were upon the water; and quantities of the litter provided for them have been found in the mud of the lakes. Moss, which has also been largely discovered, is thought by the Gentleman's Magazine to have formed the sleeping couches of the household. Numerous wild fruita, such as apples, pears, plums, raspberries and were included in the vegetable diet of these Swiss aborigines; and the detection of apple parings testified to a certain nicety in their cuisine. They cultivated the common cereals, wheat and barley; and flat, round cakes have been disinterred, and also several stones, between which the grain was

### When Snake-Polson Is Harmless.

Nature seems to have provided that no poison which acts externally shall have any effect internally, and vice Thus the most deadly snake venom can be swallowed with impunity, the juice of the stomach presuma- grub?" bly decomposing it and rendering it prove this. On one occasion recorded by Humboldt one person swallowed the whole of the poison that could be obtained from four Italian vipers without suffering any bad consequences. In the same way the poison from the envenomed arrows of South American Indians can be swallowed with safety, provided only that there is no wound on the lips or inside of the month.

MANHOOD RESTORED. "SANATIVO." th

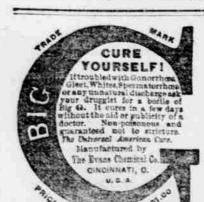


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#### COST OF YACHTING.

\$3,000 a Month for the Use of th Astor's Nourmahal.

What It Costs to Charter a Sloop or Schooner Yacht-The Wasp Is Worth \$12,000-Prices Paid for Smaller Craft-Life in a Yawl.

[COPYRIGHT, 1892.]

When James M. Waterbury chartered the Nourmahal, the Astor yacht, he agreed to return the vessel in the condition in which it was received. But the Nourmahal has been in collision with the steamer Maine and the little bill for repairs will be close to \$3,000. Add to this the \$3,000 monthly rental, the \$2,-000 monthly expense bill, and Mr. Waterbury's summer outing will come high, exceedingly high.

But the man who willingly spent \$10,-000 on an amateur circus won't mind it in the least. He will entertain his friends as lavishly as ever, and if inclined charter the yacht for another

season. No summer sport is relished with so much zeal as that which an out.ng on the water affords. Pass through the Narrows of New York harbor to the outer bay and you cross the wakes of a thousand pleasure boats of all sizes and descriptions, from the smallest yawl to



the sloop and from the schooner to the massive steam yacht fitted out in the style of a palatial ocean passenger steamer. But to note the extent of this splendid sport one has but to look over the long list of New York yachts built by the Herreschoffs or in the Burgess vards, or to take a look at the magnificent proportions of the Wasp, the Gloriana, the Pyxie, El Chico, the Hansell, the Fancy, the Hawk, all vessels of late designing, or at the Alva, the Conqueror, the Nourmahal, steam yachts that cost all the way from \$150,000 to \$400,-000, the price at which the Vanderbilt craft, the Alva, is held; or perhaps to skim along the sound on the decks of that calm-water speeder, the Norwood.

It is an expensive sport; perhaps as expensive as a stable of horses, and often as full of bitter disappointments. I had occasion recently to visit one of these ship-renting firms and the prices quoted me meant in almost every instance a neat annual income. I quote the prices and arrangements offered me verbatim:

"We will charter you a 40-foot steam yacht, no staterooms-just an open boat, you know, for \$28 a day, or, if taken by the month, at \$600. You furnish the fuel, we the captain and engineer. Or we can charter you a 75foot pleasure yacht, with three or four staterooms, for \$1,500 a month, we supplying the crew and you 'grub' it." "And what is the expense of fuel and

"That depends. You ought to figure and lower folding berth. bly decomposing it and rendering it and rendering it on \$1,000 a month anyway for extras leads on either side of the cabin, is the

chartered. But I can get you a 120-foot steam yacht, every bit as comfortable and enjoyable, for \$3,000 a month. Your expenses in this case would be \$2,000 a month extra. I can charter you a schooner yacht, complete, for \$1,200 a month, or a sloop for \$20 a day. perhaps the wisest thing to do if you want a season's sport is to buy a steam yacht, a schooner or a sloop, and sell it for whatever it will bring at the end of the season. You can expend \$5,000 and get a splendid pleasure craft, or go as high as \$30,000, and get a neatly outfitted 75-foot steam yacht."

But after all there is splendid sport in



A "SOL PRINGLE" BOAT AND A LAKE STEAM LAUNCH.

tively small. You can buy a petroleum launch 22 feet in length with a width of 4 feet 6 inches and of one-horse power, finished in ash or oak, for \$550. launch of the same proportions for salt water use would probably cost \$850. The increased cost for salt water use is due to the expense for condensers and water tanks. The cost for launches 25, 30 and 33 feet in length, finished in ash, oak or mahogany, ranges from \$725 to \$1,200. These boats are constructed with cedar bottoms, copper riveted, overhang stern and pretty shear seats forward and aft of the motor. The rudder is of brass or iron running through the overhang or counter and fitted with a tiller and steering lines leading around the inside of the boat, so that the steering can be done from any place. The motor is an automatic petroleum burner, generating steam.

The naphtha launches are constructed on the same general plan and are about equal in cost. With a good engineer the danger is practically infinitesimal in either the naphtha, the petroleum or the kerosene launches.

A forty-foot punhtha launch with a draught twenty-six inches, fitted out with a neat cabin, and finely upholered, will cost all the way from \$1,500 to

In the line of smaller sailing craft ! found the prices very reasonable. There is a combination row and sailboat, really a catboat, which can be had all the way

feet in length and can seat nine per-sons. It is supplied with rudder, tiller, yoke, foot-stretcher, back-rests, anchor and rope, brass swivel rowlocks, stem and stern protectors, is nicely var-nished and polished and finished in col-

ored wood. The full cat-rigged sailboat with open cock-pit centerboard, sixteen feet long and holding four persons, is worth with sail \$250. From this the prices range up to \$600 for boats twenty-two feet in length and with a capacity for

In sloop-rigged boats, with jib and mainsail, the 25-footer will cost \$800 and the 30-footer \$1,200.

One of the prettiest cabin catboats in New York is the Gunhilda, built for Mr. E. S. Jewett, which is valued at \$1,-500. Thomas T. Taber's new cabin catboat is built on the same general plan, and both are entered in some of the best regattas of the year.

show the interest all over the country in speedy sailing yachts I am told that the Herreschoffs a week or so ago sent cout a 17-foot fin keel to Auburn, a 16-foot of yawl to Lake Minnetonka, Minn., the fourth to be sent there this season, and a 23-foot cat yawl to Conanticut park. They, of course, receive higher prices for all their work than those quoted above. In fact, for such a boat as the Wasp \$12,000 is considered cheap. But I was shown a number of newly-designed yachts in South Brooklyn, all of which, while cheaper in price, seemed to all appearances as serviceable. One, a 25-foot boat, launched only a week or two ago, is built on the lines of the Gloriana. Her dimensions are 23 feet on the water-line and 40 feet over all. The frame is of oak, with yellow pine planking. She is finished in mahogany, and will be yawl-rigged with a small jib aft, as she is intended for cruising. I understand that she is sold for \$2,500. Orden Goelet, who owns the schooner yacht Norseman, is cheerfully paying out \$3,000 a month now for the steam yacht Thetis. As she is a steel vessel of 511 tons and 117 feet in length, Mr. Goelet will be able to entertain his friends lavishly, and with no end of comfort.

The so-called houseboat is coming into deserved popularity. About New York there is a vast area of water



THE MODEL HOUSE BOAT.

as there is near almost every island city of note.

Such a boat is much less expensive than a yacht. Allowing the same length for both the former one will cost from \$300 to \$500 to construct while the 40-foot yacht cannot be built for less than \$3,000 and perhaps not for much under \$5,000. In the houseboat the cabin should be 12x15 feet, allowing for pretty windows at the side and doors opening upon the deck. Several staterooms should be arranged on either side, each 65/x5 feet, room enough for an upper

"What can you charter the Alva for?" kitchen. Then above it all arrange for "Well, I don't know that she can be a hurricane deck, thirty feet long by twelve feet wide, and you have a house boat arranged with every detail that can add to comfort as far as the general plan is concerned. The furnishings can be as rich or as plain as your inclinations or your purse will permit. One thing that should never be forgotten in the equipment is the double set of anchors. As a rule the boat should be anchored bow and stern so that she is securely guarded against a heavy wind. Manilla rope is suggested for mooring or possibly galvanized chain cable. Have a little dory ready for emergencies. They are extremely safe even when loaded down with a cargo. Then fitted out with a sprit-sail and centerboard they will give occasion for many a pleasant sail in a good stiff breeze, and save on other occasions the trouble of rowing. The question of moving the houseboat is one not so readily solved. On the river, where the current is strong, there need be no either to the one or the other trouble, but on quiet waters where propulsion of some kind is necessary it is, perhaps, best to be fitted out with in this manner, constant differences sails that can be adjusted to four or six masts, and when the breeze is favorable you will find the boat moving along quietly, smoothly and without danger. Even with four hundred and thirty-two square feet of sail there need be no fear of capsizing in a squall, for by having the ropes in perfect control the canvas can be lowered in a second's

There are several ways of building the float on which the house rests. As a rule it is advisable to give it to a ship or seow builder, even though the ex-pense be a little greater than that charged by the carpenter who build the upper part of the outfit for

chanical outfit need not cost you more than five hundred dollars, and possibly you can contract to have the work done for three hundred dollars.

Had Seen the Harbor Before Sydney, Australia, has a remarkably

fine harbor, and the people are proud of No stranger can visit the place without being asked, again and again: "What do you think of our beautiful This question, repeated too harbor?" often, is liable to become a source of amusement, if not of annoyance. author of "Homeward Bound" relates that an irate skipper, with the recollection of previous visits to the city in his mind, once sailed up the bay with a huge placard rigged at the bow of his "We have admired your beauti-

Sharpening Files by Acid.

A new mode of sharpening files is recommended by German papers, namely, the use of acids. A metal sheet covered with a thin layer of charcoal is fastened upon the file, protecting the edges. This combination is laid into a solution of six parts of nitric acid and three parts of sulphuric acid in a hundred parts of water. The acid eats away all the inner parts of the file, leaving the protected edges unchanged, from \$150 to \$200. The latter is nineteen | which are then sharpened for use.

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COLOR BLINDNESS.

Experiments on the Evesight Show In-

Prof. Hering undertook a series of observations upon three normal-sighted to a less than average elimination of his two assistants, Dr. Biedermann an i Dr. Stilling. These experiments were designed to elicit whether any constant differences could be detected in the color judgments of the three normal-sighted persons who were the subject of experiment. The question proposed for judgment was the determination of the point at which a red, which had been graduated off on the one side into a blue-red and on the other into a yellow-red, could be regarded as at the neutral point at which it did not incline of these colors. When the matter was put to the exprrimental test were actually discovered to obtain between the judgments of the three individual observers. The one observer Dr. (now Prof.) Biedermann, in all cases still continued to see a yellowish for you, and as you shift uneasily in tinge when the red proposed for judgment had already, in the judgment of the other two observers, long ceased to contain any trace of yellow. Similary, when it was a question of transition from a blue-red to a pure red, the blue faded out from the red first to Dr. Biedermann, next to Prof. Hering, and last of all to Dr. Stilling. In fact, Dr. Biedermann had regularly begun to see a vellow shade in the red before it had well ceased to have a blue shade for had well ceased to have a blue shade for Dr. Stilling. Prof. Hering was ascer-to begin with, must have a good memtained to occupy a kind of intermediate ory.

position in respect of his susceptibility and in order to prove effective he to yellow and blue rays. It thus became evident that there are physiological differences of sensibility also be able to tell the most exeruto the blue and yellow rays to be found cistingly funny story without the in persons of perfectly normal sight, movement of any of his facial musand Prof. Hering was able to show, by cles, for if there is anything that rulns means of an ingenious method of ex- a story it is to have the relator thereperimentation with excised retinas, of titter and snicker at his own clever that such differences were not refers ness. That story telling is not necesble to any disparity of color nomencla- sarily the pastime of feeble minds, or ture, while they might well be account- is in any way undignified, is attested ed for by individual differences in the by the fact that a greater story-teller depth of pigmentation over the central never lived than grand old Abraham region, the so-called macula lutea, or Lincoln. "Uncle Abe" always had a yellow spot of the retina. It was pointed pertinent story at the end of his tongue out by Hering that an increased depth to fit any and every theme that might of pigmentation would naturally en- be broached, and it is a fact, I believe tail a greater absorption of the bluish that oftentimes he could more forcibly rays during their transmission to the and clearly convey just the idea that he deeper-lying sensative layer of the reti-na, and further that the result of such plicible to the bject under discussion, an excessive weeding out of the blue than other men could by an elaborate rays would be to give every color judg- and detailed argument. But as for the ment which emanated from a person and story-teller-out of him I say, and with a deeply-pigmented retina a dis- may his tribe steadily decrease. tinet yellowish bias. This we have seen there is not one on the brood left to anwas the condition which was found to cumber the earth. Detroit Free Press. obtain in the case of Dr. Biedermann's color judgments.

On the other hand, the color judg- -Cherry ice -One quart of cherry ments of a person whose retins conjudes and two pounds of sugar, heat un-

would be characterized by a bluish bias, for the light which would to the ordipary eye appear as colorless would to such an eye appear to be bluish, owing persons, namely, upon himself and upon the blue rays. -Dr. A. E. Wright, in Ninete Century.

AN INSUFFERABLE BORE.

The Chronic Story Teller Who Makes Himself Odious. What an insufferable bore the chronic story teller is. You know whom I mean. the chap who waylays you on the street, inserts his finger in your buttonhole and relates some chestnutty yarn that you have heard time and time Then there are aggregated again. types of this mania for telling stories in season and out of season where the story teller is afflicted with a faulty memory and hence forgets when he meets you on Tuesday that he told you his one story on Monday. The result is that you are obliged to stand and listen to the same wearisome nonsense that blighted the the grasp of the story-teller, you wonder why a live electric light wire doesn't break from its moorings and electrocute the life out of the consum mate bore beside you. There are story tellers who are genuine artists in that hear spin yarns, and I could mention, if I were so disposed a number of men right here in Detroit who can tell a keeping. funny story just as well as any body in Then he must be a clever mimic, should have at least a fair knowledge of three or four dialects. He must

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til dissolved, and then add one quart of water. When cool, put in the freezer. and when partly frozen, add the whites

of six eggs, well beaten.-N. Y. Ob--Fried Onions -Cut the onions to slices and soak them in milk for at least ten minutes. Then dip them into flour and immerse in boiling fat. After they have fried for six or seven minutes they will be found to be firm and delicious -

N. Y. World. -Baked Potatoes Creamed.-Bake the potatoes, and when nearly done cut off a circular piece from the upper part and scoop out the pulp. Mix this well with cream and a bit of butter, put back in the skin and touch it over the white of an egg beaten to a froth.

Serve hot in a napkin.-Old Homestead. -Canning Apples -Select tart apples. Bellflowers or Duchess are excellent for canning. Peel, quarter and core; throw into cold water until you have enough; prepare a sirup, by using half a pint of water for each pound of sugar. Drain the apples through a colander and put them into the sirup when it boils; cook slowly until tender; but seal.-Housekeeper.

-Pink Lemonade -A change from the ordinary lemonade may be made by coloring it a pretty shade of pink with cochineal coloring, made in the follow-ing manner: Boil together, for twenty minutes, one ounce of cochineal, one ounce of cream of tartar, one-fourth of an ounce of alum, one-half pint of water. A small quantity will suffice to color the lemonade, and will not materially change the taste.-Good House-

-Rice and Veal Cakes - Wash half a teacupful of rice in cold water, then boil in milk until tender. Have ready a teacupful of cooked real chopped fine Put this into the rice, break in two eggs and salt to taste. Stir until well mixed, and make in little cakes and fry a light brown in butter. Cold weal left from a previous meal can be used as well as not, and cold rice may be used, but is not quite so nice as with freshly cooked. -Demorest's Magazine.

Soft Shell Crahs -See to it that no dead crabs are in the lot. Under the sides of the paper shell will be found a quantity of shaggy, feathery substance which must be removed; be careful also to remove the sand pouch. Wash and dry each crab toss them in a little flour and fry in a liberal quantity of hot fat.

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Kacass and Oklahoma agent for Califor-nia Powder Works. Tents for rent and sale. Mail orders will be promptly filled. 118 East Douglas, Wichita, Kau. A thick covering of batter and bread crumbs detracts from the excellent

qualities of this most dainty dish, and

should not be tolerated by epicures -Roston Budget -With fish may be serred potatoes and tomatoes in any form, also cucun bers, onions and green pegs. If the fish is prepared with curry satios as an accompaniment, rice should also be served; if dressed with a cream sauce, any kind of potatoes, except fried, will be appropriate. Fish is so delicate that a vegetable of a pronounced flavor should never be served with it. Therefore, onlons should be made as dainty as possible by being boiled in a large quantity

of water, which should be changed several times; they may then be drained and dished with a cream sauce. -Cheese Ramakins - Grate half a pound of American cheese and half a pound of bread crumbs; sonk the crumbs in half a pint of milk; put these in a mortar, add four cunces of sweet butter, half a saltspoon of white pepper, two saltspoons of salt and half a teaspoon of dry mustard; put the mixture n a bowl and add the beaten yolks of five eggs. Beat the whites to a stiff froth and add to the mixture. Heat and butter the gent pan, put in the mixture and bake twenty minutes. The mixture may be made stiff with flour, rolled into little cakes and baked of

buttered paper .- Household Monthly.

The cold bath is going out of farms. There was, indeed, an element of hume bug in the noisy enjoyment of the man who in the drad of winter broke thin ice to gain aboution. The ghastly smile and the chattering of teeth gave the he to his protestations of delight. The excite envy, shun cold water as neither refreshing nor cleansing. The poorest inhabitant has a fire of charmoal lightest under a movable tub. And just as how ten in summer is more cooling than the iced drink, so is not water to be preferred to cold; nor need the advocate of this principle be necessarily a disciple of Habnemann.

